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PLYMOUTH 3.41 p.m.—3.50 a.m.

BIRMINGHAM 3.59 p.m.—4.10 a.m.

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No. 3241

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1943

63rd Year

OVER 3,000,000

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(Printed at the O.P.O.)

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LONDON
EDITION

A Drop of
HP SAUCE
is worth a bottle
in peacetime

Two More Great Convoys Sail Safely On While Ships And Planes Massacre The Enemy

U-BOATS SEE NO DECISIVE REPEAT: 5 MORE ARE SUNK, MANY OTHERS DAMAGED

FOR THE SECOND TIME WITHIN SIX DAYS NEWS CAME LAST NIGHT OF A MAGNIFICENT NEW VICTORY IN THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC. IN A TWO-DAYS' DRAMATIC FIGHT AGAINST 20 U-BOATS WHICH HAD CONCENTRATED TO ATTACK TWO VALUABLE CONVOYS, AT LEAST FIVE OF THE ENEMY WERE SUNK AND THREE CRIPPLED.

The U-boats never got a chance to launch the major attack which they had planned. Admiral Sir Max Horton, Commander-in-Chief Western Approaches, described their defeat as "decisive."

Such was the success of our sailors and airmen that 99 per cent. of the escorted ships sailed safely into harbor. Not one of our warships was so much as scratched. The total Allied casualties were two aircraft of Coastal Command shot down by the U-boats' guns and three damaged.

SMASHING U.S. AIR VICTORY

138 Huns Shot Down In Great Day Raid

UNITED STATES bombers, smashing their way yesterday through heavily defended German skies to raid Emden, Nazi naval base, scored one of the most sensational victories in the history of aerial warfare. They shot down 117 enemy aircraft for the loss of 16 bombers.

Fighters, acting as escort to the bombers, shot down 21 German planes, bringing the total to 138. Three of the American escort planes were lost—a 7 to 1 victory for the U.S. air armada.

Large formations of U.S. Eighth Army Air Force Flying Fortress and Liberator, escorted by Thunderbolts and Lightnings, attacked Emden, Germany, today (Saturday).

In numerous aerial combats, 117 enemy aircraft were destroyed by the heavy bombers and 21 fighters.

Indeed, it is probably the most successful day of the Luftwaffe in daylight blows at Germany since they began using rockets, being guided by their own searchlights.

The U.S. is the greatest victory won by American air forces in their assaults on Germany for the first time.

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8th ADVANCING AGAIN

German Retreat Near Italy

A NEW Panzer division thrown in against Montenegro's men has failed to stem the persistent Allied advance, and the indications last night were that the Germans will soon be compelled to make a general withdrawal along the whole front.

The German tanks which were rushed up to form the spearhead of a succession of counter-attacks against the Eighth Army's bridgehead across the Moro river were beaten after three fighting days.

Then the Canadians, supported by tanks and armoured cars, forced a new bridgehead over the Moro, seven miles from the coast. Their advance took them along the main lateral road running south-west from the coast town of Ortona.

This road is the last lateral link between the German bridgehead and the sea. It is cut by the German "winter line" in this area will be smashed completely.

Soon, the drive by the Canadians developed into an offensive along a 10-mile front.

After German coast troops captured San Leonardo, and were last night reported to be engaged in bitter fighting in the outskirts of Ortona itself.

Flieger aircraft threw their weight into the battle, destroying German positions and shooting down strongpoints ahead of the Eighth Army.

REAL GALE DAY Warhams and Kittyhams, ranging further afield, had one of the most successful days of the campaign. They destroyed the main junction of Chieli, nine miles inland from Pescara, and damaged another at 145.

From the Fifth Army front, our forces were consolidating their recent gains on the high ground overlooking the Rome road.

They beat off two counter-attacks north of San Pietro—a key position which the Germans had previously fortified with wire and pill-boxes.

Within the Allied line, however, there has been no definitely within the Allied line, though there is no indication as yet that the fighting has been occupied.

It was in this area that the fighting has been occupied. They advanced into the foothills of the mountains, and the German troops of the crack Hermann Goerners have been seen in sharp counter-attacks pushed the Italians back.

DE BONO ARRESTED Marshal de Bono (one of the leaders of the march on Rome in 1922) has been arrested. He was occupying Italy and is facing trial for high treason, says Agence Radio.

'Bulgar Premier Goes' Bulgaria is facing a new serious Cabinet crisis.

Prime Minister, Borisov, the Foreign Minister, Shishmanov, and the Minister of the Interior, Dr. Dimitroff, are reported to be in conflict over reports reaching Istanbul from Sofia.

The three ministers are said to have gone owing to the strength of the Bulgarian opposition to the R.U.P.

FRENCH RAIL BAN Only persons possessing official authorization are to be allowed to travel on French railways, said Agence Radio (Radio France) today.

Full your friends the one to be sure of obtaining

The People on Christmas Sunday is to be a regular order with your newspaper. Do this now!



SOVIET'S 'BIG HAND' FOR BENES

MOSCOW gave a great repulse yesterday to President Benes of Czechoslovakia, when he arrived to sign a new 20-year treaty with Russia, says Reuters.

He was met by M. Molotov and Marshal Voroshilov, and reviewed the troops. Moscow Guards in their long winter coats.

BIG ALLIED LANDING SOON, SAYS MOSCOW

BIG landing operations are near, said Moscow Radio yesterday. It is our firm will and determination and that of our allies to launch large-scale landing and ground operations in the nearest possible future," the announcer said.

By the great number of German troops engaged on the Russian front, the success of the large-scale landing operations of our allies is completely assured.

We have reached complete agreement on the operations to be undertaken on the ground and in the air, and we are confident of Germany has been signed."

'Bulgar Premier Goes'

Bulgaria is facing a new serious Cabinet crisis.

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GREATEST BATTLE SINCE STALINGRAD RAGING IN RUSSIA

Asses Panzers Smashed In Bulge Attack

FROM HAROLD KING, REUTER'S SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

"THEY SHALL NOT PASS"—that is the watchword today of every Red Army man fighting grimly to hold Field-Marshal von Manstein's massed counterblows in the four-week old battle of the Kiev bulge. IT IS THE GREATEST BATTLE SINCE STALINGRAD.

Throwing in groups of 150 to 200 panzers at a time, the German tank army has in the past 24 hours succeeded in driving several wedges into Gen. Vatutin's positions.

But their success has been shortlived. In hand-to-hand fighting every German inside the wedges has been exterminated in a ruthless struggle. Russians dropped their last grenade went for the Germans and dragged them with their bare hands.

Thwarted for a month in his countless counter-attacks west of Kiev, von Manstein is now making a great new bid to flatten out the Red Army salient, to roll the Russians back to Kiev itself. But the battle of the bulge is only the first of two great Ukrainian struggles.

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Nazis' Secret Weapon

ALLIES PROBE ROCKET GUN REPORT

By ROBERT VIVIAN, Reuter's Special Correspondent

ALLIED authorities here are closely studying Axis-inspired reports that the Germans have mounted on the French coast rocket guns capable of lobbing colossal missiles to London.

The missiles, it is asserted, are controlled by wireless. These guns, if they do exist, are mainly valuable to the Germans at the moment as a psychological warfare weapon.

A few of these guns are alleged to have been mounted in special bomb-proof emplacements on the Channel coast. The missiles are likely to be offensive rather than defensive.

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Last Night's Communique

Another Advance To The West

MORE advances west of the newly captured junction of Znamensk were announced in last night's Moscow communique, which stated:

During December 11 our troops, overcoming enemy resistance continued to advance, and captured the district centre of Nogorodka in the Kirovograd province, east of a number of inhabited localities.

In the area south and south-west of Malin our troops waged successful battles with enemy tanks and infantry. On several sectors of the front there was reconnoitring activity and artillery exchanges.

During December 10 our troops on all fronts destroyed or disabled 18 enemy tanks, including 10 in the area south of Malin, and shot down 14 enemy planes."

—Reuter.

Battlefront Swept By Snowstorms

SNOW storms sweeping the Russian front, according to a German war correspondent today, are making it difficult for the German army to advance.

In addition to the Soviet gunners, anti-aircraft guns and petrol bottles are taking part in the slaughter of the German panzers.

While the situation in the Kiev bulge still contains an inherent menace, it is evident that the Red Army will, in the past, fight the Germans to a standstill.

HUNS CUT OFF

In the second big battle in the Dnieper bend—the whole German line is in danger of crumbling. The German formations fighting in the bend—either estimated at some 10 divisions, or about 70,000 men—are now cut off from railway communications with the rear.

After battering their way through the vital rail junction of Znamensk, captured by the Soviet army, the German formations are now within striking distance of the key city of Kirovograd.

THE FALL OF THESE TWO VITAL CITIES WILL OPEN THE ROAD FOR A NEW RED ARMY DRIVE TOWARDS KYIV AND THE BLACK SEA CITY OF ODESSA.

(Continued on Back Page)

Remember, Mirro will clean your skin, woodwork and your work without scratching too... because it actually absorbs dirt instead of rubbing off the surface. Buy a 7.0 Giant canister.

FOR SAFE SMOOTH CLEANSING USE... MIRRO 7.0

THE AMAZING NEVER SCRATCH CLEANSER

Thomas, Healey and Company, Limited, Newcastle, Tyne

Mosquito One Of 3 Ace Planes

Washington, Saturday.—The Mosquito, a large crowd welcomed Mr. Anthony Eden, Britain's smiling Foreign Secretary, when he arrived in London yesterday after his strenuous three weeks abroad.

"We have had a very good trip," he said, and the results are very good, too."

Mr. Eden was met by Mr. Richard Law, Minister of State, and the Chinese Ambassador.

The British delegation who returned to London yesterday after their visit to the Mediterranean theatre.

The party had travelled by air.

'They'll Be Too Groggy'

If the Germans are not knocked completely out of the war by air attack even before the Second Front opens, they are going to be too groggy for much resistance to invasion.

The German Overseas News Agency said last night.

All-Smiles Eden Is Greeted By Crowd

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No AIR TRUCE

The German Overseas News Agency said last night.

Eden's spokesman said "No" when asked by an airman whether the Christmas holidays had been broken by any of the neutral powers.



"TEACHER SAYS I'M THE SMARTEST BOY IN THE CLASS" SAYS SAMMY SALVAGE

... But Mother's a bit old-fashioned, so I just have to keep her up-to-date without hurting her feelings!

GOOD GRACIOUS BOY... THAT'S MY TWO-PINT SALVAGE!

BUT MUM'S ONLY GOT TWO PINTS OF SALVAGE! SHE'S GOT TWO PINTS OF SALVAGE! SHE'S GOT TWO PINTS OF SALVAGE!

TEACHER SAYS YOU CAN RUB METAL RUST AWAY WITH YOUR USE OF ALL-PURPOSE CLEANERS! SHE'S GOT TWO PINTS OF SALVAGE!

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WAR on disease and mental impotence will begin when the Allies have freed Europe from German domination.

In Italy now, civilians beg and steal and are too busy keeping alive to bother about who governs them.

Nazi Ruthlessness Has Crushed Italy

By REX NORTH, Representing Combined British Press.

ITALY today is Europe tomorrow. And because of this it was with relief that I left that country a few days ago. For Italy frightened me. For perhaps the first time I was no longer thinking of the troops in the mud and blood of the front line.

ROMMEL 'MAKES SURE'

ROMMEL is touring Germany's anti-invasion "Western Wall" to prepare for the blows threatened at the "Big Three" talks, according to Berlin reports.

Martin Halstenberg, military correspondent of the German Overseas News Agency, wrote last night:

"The fact that of all people, Field-Marshal Rommel inspected the German defensive installations in northern Denmark and assured himself of their state of preparedness has no doubt a deep reason."

"This must be viewed against the context of the Teheran and Cairo conferences."

A German military spokesman quoted by the Berlin correspondent of the "Dagens Nyheter" stated that Rommel would probably inspect other parts of the European "wall" as well as Denmark—Heiter.

FOOD STOLEN

When we knock the German out of a village in Italy, you at home it means just another line in a column. Look at these villages afterwards, as I have done so often in recent weeks, and you realize that any one of them only provide pages of history.

Food, bread, meat, and fruit, they are all gone. The German soldiers, who are now in the villages, are half-starved and are dying of disease.

When our troops enter a village an Allied Military Government is set up.

What mattered to me was the hopeless, despairing, physical and mental shambles they will uncover in Europe when the last shot has been fired.

It cannot be a word and build magic houses or see that everyone is employed by the following morning.

Do you imagine that the people of Greece, Poland, France and all the rest are going to shake off a yoke of war in a matter of days or weeks?

Two classes of people eat with reasonable regularity in Italy now. The very rich and the very poor. The rich will pay any price and the poor of Italy—who have never seen two meals a day—scrambling harder at what they have than the rich.

But the man who is asked in his small savings when the lire was worth 100 to one pound, and his job has gone, too. He is left with nothing.

It will be the villages living in filth and squalor below the shattered brick walls, with a bit of makeshift living over the top of the ruins.

Hopefully you wonder how many women there are in Europe today like Giuseppina Annunziata, who lives in Vespucio. When we walked into their drag cottage she fled to the top of the stairs.

It wasn't a new story. It can be told in thousands of homes all over Europe. The girl raped by three German soldiers, now she is a mental wreck. She never walks outside the door. At the sight of a uniform she trembles.

END WAR

To rid the country of disease, to ensure that when the war is over all Italians gradually get food. Breakfast, lunch and dinner, its people must think politically and promptly elect a new democratic government.

But the Italian is so concerned with the monetary business of keeping alive that he is not in any way concerned with who or what governs him.

It might upset the people who cry for vengeance against the entire German nation to know that the British and American troops who are fighting in Italy haven't the slightest intention of turning the face of the German nation and grind it into dust.

They think that this would be a certain way of ensuring that their sons will be fighting in the same mud in 25 years' time.

The troops who have seen Italian women with children in their arms sorting through garbage for food are going to come back to demand a Government and a plan that will end war in their time.

They will insist on the same order, but just into the reconstruction of Europe as there has been in knocking it down.

Harsh scourers scratch things clean

Vim cleans quickly but doesn't scratch

NEEDS NO COUPONS 7d per canister

W1114-620 LEVER MACHINES, PORT LINDSEY, LINTED

Take a tip from Grandpa Kruschen...



HE CAN GIVE POINTS TO THE YOUNG 'UNS!

Get that KRUSCHEN feeling!

It's the little daily dose that does it!

MOSLEY: FIRST PICTURE



This photograph, the first taken of Sir Oswald Mosley since his release, shows him in the yard of the O-fordshire inn where he is staying.

To 'Consider The Question Anew' Greek King May Abdicate

From DENIS MARTIN, Reuter's Special Correspondent

KING GEORGE OF GREECE has disclosed that "When the long-desired hour of liberation will strike I shall examine anew the question of my return to Greece."

Continued From Page One

RUSSIAN FRONT BATTLES

At the same time such a victory would enable the Russians to swing round Kiev itself and strike towards the German Bag River. The last big fortified line between the Dniester River and Rumania are reached.

Already Kirovograd itself is outflanked for the tankettes of two powerful Soviet columns are now threatening the city from two sides.

CONTACT MADE

Elsewhere, the two Soviet armies advancing west from the Dniester, from the Kremenchuk and the Cherkassy bridgeheads, are now linking up with each other. Patrols of the two armies have made contact below Cherkassy.

The process of linking up of the small Dniester bridgeheads which the Russians have been holding for some time between Kremenchuk and Cherkassy is continuing, according to one Soviet message tonight.

Behind the advancing German Ukrainian guerrillas are playing havoc with the communications. The guerrillas, in fact, played a vital part in the capture of Znamensk.

U-BOATS' DECISIVE DEFEAT

H.M.S. Bervly (Lt.-Cmdr. C. C. Pirie, R.N.V.)

The battle continued intermittently almost till dawn, when the frigates H.M.S. (Lt. N. J. Parker, R.N.) and H.M.S. Bazely (Lt.-Cmdr. J. V. Brock, R.C.N.V.) engaged and drove off the last two attacks of the night.

During the following day, a strong force of land-based aircraft, composed of Liberators, Hurricanes, and Mustangs, together with Sunderland flying boats, have been attacking the convoys or carried out wide anti-submarine sweeps around them.

BROKE ON IMPACT

In the early evening, a Royal Canadian Air Force Sunderland of Coastal Command sighted two U-boats together on the surface and attacked one of them with depth charges.

Rapid fire from both U-boats killed three members of the air crew and almost crippled the aircraft, but the captain succeeded in bringing the Sunderland to a halt and a vigorous second attack, which severely damaged the U-boat.

The Sunderland was then forced to disengage and on its way back to base it was broken up on the impact, and the captain went down with his crew.

Three more attacks on U-boats were made by aircraft later in the night. During the second night, the remaining U-boats attempted to close the convoys in the darkness, but the enemy force was sighted by the frigates H.M.S. Benbow (Lt. C. H. Chavasse, D.S.O., R.N.) which opened fire and sank the enemy to dive.

In quick succession, other U-boats were intercepted, all were driven off by H.M.S. Duncan, the destroyer H.M.S. Vidua (Lt.-Cmdr. H. H. D.S.O., R.N.) and the frigate

Dying Navigator Saves His Air Crew

SUNDERLAND'S EPIC FIGHT

SHOT DOWN BY TWO U-BOATS

'We Can't Be Beaten' Ribbentrop

Berlin and Tokyo yesterday celebrated the second anniversary of the Tripartite military agreement with a spate of speeches, congratulatory telegrams and Press comment.

Mussolini's "Fascist Republic" government was drawn up at a same bird, says Repulcr. Both Ribbentrop and Shigemitsu, German and Japanese Foreign Ministers, made speeches. That Germany and Japan cannot be beaten was claimed by Ribbentrop.

In East Asia Japan has now absolute predominance," he declared.

The Tripartite Pact Power, by its military agreement, the first great onslaught, gained such strategic advantage as can never be outweighed by the mass of the enemy," he declared.

Stronger than in his last broadcast and he spoke in his usual measured style.

The military forces now rapidly being established in the Italian Republic will shortly take up their action against the Italian traitors at the side of the Tripartite comrades," he said.

Germany and Japan's blood they will wipe out of the map of Europe and the world."

One of the rescued crew, the second pilot, Flying-Officer A. R. Bell, D.F.C., of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, was carried to the back of the Sunderland by the crew, who jumped overboard and swam through a rough sea to safety from the Sunderland.

Bellis had been entangled in the radio series of the flying boat, and he was under artificial respiration for nearly two hours before he regained consciousness.

KING'S LINKS AS GIFT

Colonel Sir George Hastings, of the Albany, Piccadilly, president of the Council of the Royal Air Force, has presented the diamond links given by the King of Spain, to his grandson, the King of Spain.

ADVERTISEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Snow

Snow fell in the Straits of Dover by 11.30 a.m. on Sunday, December 24, 1945. The first snow of the winter. A strong easterly wind roused the sea, but the snow was good.

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